Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 12-25, in the following manner:

Such a problematic situation will now be described in a specific example. For example, a case where an original image of 8 × 8 pixel configuration shown in FIG. 4A is reduced to a half in size, or a 1/4 in area, will now be discussed. In this case, a predetermined one is selected from among each unit of 4 pixels of 2 × 2, for example, such as those enclosed by broken lines in FIG. 4A, while the other three pixels are ignored. In order to simplify the description, it is assumed that, in an original image shown in FIG. 4A, pixels of halftone dots represent black pixels while pixels of blank squares represent ~~while~~ white pixels. That is, as shown, the original image has a horizontal stripe pattern.

Please amend the paragraph at page 21, lines 10-14, in the following manner:

The above-mentioned interface part 10 includes an input part 11 which receives image data supplied from the outside, and an output part 12 which outputs image data having undergone processing in this image processing apparatus.

Please amend the paragraph at page 26, line 22 through page 27, line 2, in the following manner:

Then, in this case, image data supplied from the computer 110 (Fig. 10) is processed with the image processing apparatus thus-included in the output unit 210, and an output processing of printing etc. is carried out under the control of an output control circuit or so also included there.

Please amend the paragraph at page 29, line 14 through page 30, line 4, in the following manner:

That is, in Step S31, a comparison is made for an information amount Dx of a predetermined type of target image data, for example, the information amount of the target

image data, with a corresponding reference value Nx (= NEx) previously held in the above-mentioned comparison table 41. Then, when the information amount of the image data which should be processed is smaller than the reference value Nx as a result (No of Step S31), an applying magnifying rate is set as ZZ which is a magnifying rate which is previously given by the operator (Step S37), and a magnification processing for the magnifying rate is carried out by the first processing way (see Japanese laid-open patent application No. 2001-188900 mentioned above) including the above-mentioned jaggy processing throughout the ~~necessar6y~~ necessary processing (Step S38).

Please amend the paragraph at page 57, line 21 through page 58, line 10, in the following manner:

Next, a configuration of a second embodiment of the present invention will now be described with reference to FIG. 15. In the case of the second embodiment, for magnification processing, such a magnifying rate Nj is previously set that, a jaggy phenomenon is likely to become conspicuous when the entire process of a magnification processing for this magnifying rate is performed by the above-mentioned second processing way. On the other hand, for size-reduction processing, such a size-reduction rate Nk is previously set that, an image degradation is likely to become conspicuous due to a ~~More~~ Moiré phenomenon or pixel loss phenomenon when the entire process of a size-reduction processing for this size-reduction rate is performed by the above-mentioned second processing way.

Please amend the paragraph at page 74, line 21 through page 75, line 14, in the following manner:

In contrast thereto, according to the present invention, by simply combine a plurality of arbitrary existing processing ways at an arbitrary sharing ratio, the effective can be obtained. Thus, it becomes possible to control the conditions of the processing actually applied finely by appropriately controlling the sharing ratio for making the conditions ~~mach~~ match the given requirements easily. A matter necessary to achieve the appropriate combination sharing ratio is merely to adjust a processing amount/rate (size-change rate, in

the above-mentioned example) in each of the thus-combined processing ways according to the sharing ratio. Thus, according to the present invention, even with a simple configuration, a processing quality obtained and a processing time required for the entirety of a predetermined image processing can be easily controlled in a fine adjustment manner. Accordingly, it becomes possible to provide an image processing system which can positively respond to a variety of requirements.